

Feb. 10, 2012

This Week:

- Legislative update
- Department of Homeland Security Visit
- Meetings and public outreach regarding Seattle Terminal Project
- Leadership Kitsap Foundation briefing
- Rhododendron farewell
- Ferry tale
- Customer compliment

Legislative update

I have continued to meet with legislators and monitor the progress of bills in Olympia that will affect transportation funding and the ferry system. It is a very difficult session. For updates on legislation, please visit the Legislature's website.

Department of Homeland Security Visit

Yesterday afternoon WSF hosted a visit with David Heyman, assistant secretary for policy at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). WSF security staff and representatives from the Washington State Patrol and U.S. Coast Guard provided Assistant Secretary Heyman a briefing on Washington State Ferries and reviewed our DHS security plan. I joined the group on a tour of Colman Dock, and they then rode one of our Jumbo Mark II ferries to Bainbridge Island, then transferred to a Coast Guard cutter for the trip back to Seattle.

Meetings and public outreach regarding Seattle Terminal Project

On Wednesday I met with Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) staff regarding our project to replace aging and seismically vulnerable components of Colman Dock. Yesterday afternoon I also met with representatives from the Port of Seattle about the project. Representatives from the project team rode vessels leaving Seattle during the evening commutes Wednesday and Thursday to provide information and receive your comments about the project. We appreciate those of you who took the time to review the materials and provide comments during your commute home. This coming Thursday, Feb. 16, we will be holding a public meeting from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at the PSRC Board Room at 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500, in downtown Seattle. If you didn't get a chance to catch the project team on the vessels this week, this meeting is another chance to learn more about the project and provide comments. You can also visit the project website for more information.

Leadership Kitsap Foundation briefing

This morning in Olympia I met with the Executive Director and members of the Leadership Kitsap Foundation based in Bremerton. One day a year, their class of existing and emerging leaders spends a day in Olympia to learn about the legislative process and meet the people who work at representing their interests at the state level. I enjoyed the opportunity to speak with this group, especially since the ferry system is at the forefront of the lives of Kitsap County residents.

Rhododendron farewell

We're providing an opportunity to go aboard the recently retired Rhododendron from 1-3 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 11, at our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility, 497 Harborview Drive S.E., Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. On-site parking is available. Flat shoes are required, rubber soles are strongly

recommended, and the event location is not ADA-accessible. This will be the final opportunity for you to view the Rhody's passenger areas and wheelhouses before the vessel is decommissioned.

Ferry tale

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, read our latest blog about timeless romance on the ferries.

Customer compliment

I would like to commend Terminal Attendant Patty Snyder and the Kitsap D Watch for the excellent customer service they provided to a couple of our riders last week.

My wife and I were on the boat that left Fauntleroy at 10:20 pm and went to Vashon. We were loaded with heavy luggage and when the boat arrived at the Vashon dock we hurried to get off so we wouldn't delay other passengers and the crew who were going to Southworth. I neglected to bring my shoulder bag that contained my computer, cell phone, checkbook and medicine. My wife and I were scared. We told the sweet woman who had directed the pedestrians and cars what had happened and she immediately contacted the boat, giving the crewman an idea of where we had been sitting. The crew found it and phoned us when we had just got in bed for what would have been a sleepless night. We are extremely thankful for what the crew did.

Next Week:

- Monthly agency coordination meeting with Alaskan Way Viaduct Project and Central Waterfront Committee
- Life Ring Award Presentations
- Seattle Terminal Project Public Meeting

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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